

IMPROVED VEHICULAR LIGHTING SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

An improved vehicle lighting system for a vehicle is provided. The lighting system includes a light assembly, which is configured so as to illuminate, for example, a ground area adjacent an entrance to the vehicle or an interior portion of the vehicle. The light assembly includes a single non-incandescent light source, which comprises a single high-intensity power light emitting diode. The single high-intensity power light emitting diode preferably has a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen per watt when the single high-intensity power light emitting diode is operated and wherein the single high-intensity power light emitting diode is preferably operated at a forward current of at least 100 milliamps. The single high-intensity power light emitting diode is preferably provided with a heat dissipation element, which functions as at least one of a heat sink and a heat dissipater for the power dissipated by the single high-intensity power light emitting diode. The single high-intensity power light emitting diode operates at an operational voltage that is less the battery/ignition voltage of the vehicle. Preferably the light assembly is provided with at least one of a series power resistor and a DC voltage to DC voltage converter.